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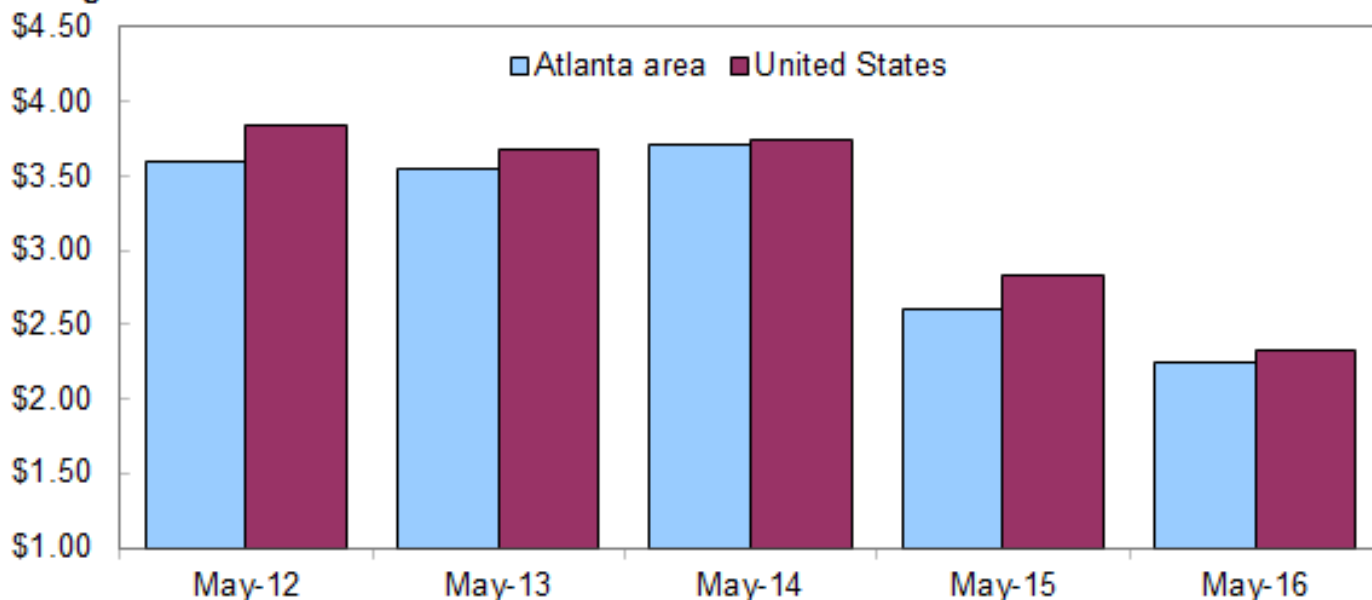
Average Energy Prices, Atlanta – May 2016

Gasoline prices averaged \$2.246 a gallon in the Atlanta area in May 2016, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Janet S. Rankin noted that area gasoline prices were 36.3 cents lower than last May when they averaged \$2.609 per gallon. Atlanta area households paid an average of 11.7 cents per kilowatt hour (kWh) of electricity in May 2016, similar to the 11.8 cents per kWh paid in May 2015. The average cost of utility (piped) gas at \$1.393 per therm was less than the \$1.422 per therm spent last year. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, month-to-month changes may reflect the impact of seasonal influences.)

Atlanta area consumers paid \$2.246 a gallon for gasoline in May 2016, compared to the \$2.324 paid nationally. A year earlier, consumers in the Atlanta area paid 7.9 percent less than the national average for a gallon of gasoline. The local price of gasoline has ranged from 1.0 to 7.9 percent below the national average in the month of May during the past five years. (See [chart 1](#).)

Chart 1. Average prices for gasoline, Atlanta and the United States, 2012–2016 (as of May)

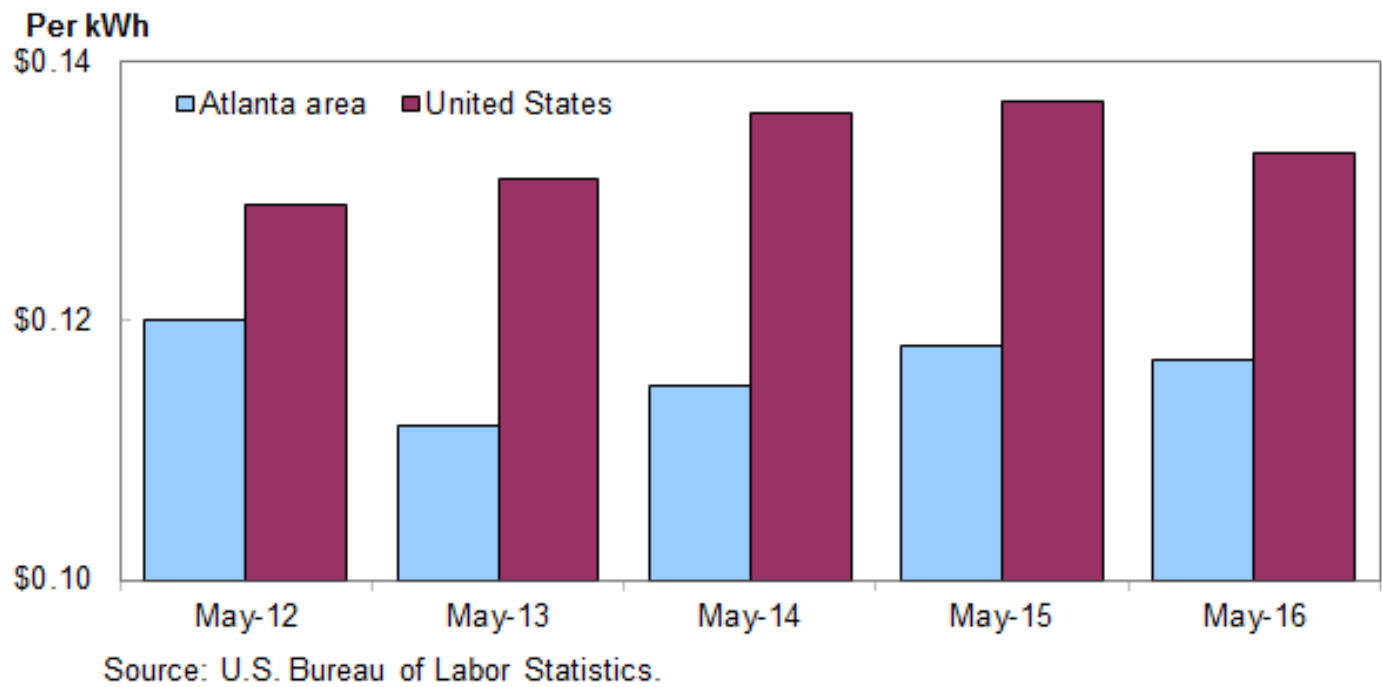
Per gallon



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The 11.7 cents per kWh Atlanta households paid for electricity in May was 12.0 percent less than the nationwide average of 13.3 cents per kWh. Last May, electricity costs in Atlanta were 13.9 percent less than those paid for the nation. In four of the past five years, prices paid by Atlanta area consumers for electricity were lower than the U.S. average by at least 12 percent. (See [chart 2](#).)

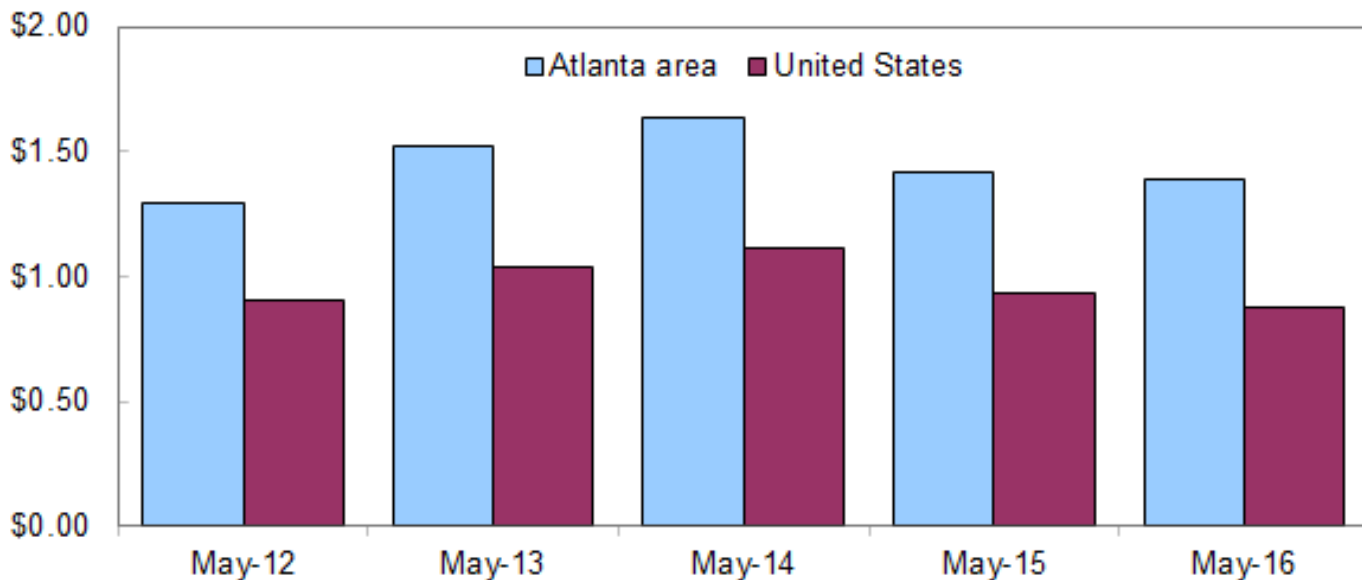
Chart 2. Average prices for electricity, Atlanta and the United States, 2012–2016 (as of May)



Prices paid by Atlanta area consumers for utility (piped) gas, commonly referred to as natural gas, were \$1.393 per therm, or 58.8 percent higher than the national average in May 2016 (\$0.877 per therm). A year earlier, area consumers paid 52.9 percent more per therm for natural gas compared to the nation. In each of the past five years, the per therm cost for natural gas in May for Atlanta households was at least 40 percent more than the U.S. average. (See [chart 3](#).)

Chart 3. Average prices for utility (piped) gas, Atlanta and the United States, 2012–2016 (as of May)

Per therm



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The **Atlanta, Ga., Metropolitan Statistical Area** consists of Barrow, Bartow, Carroll, Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry, Newton, Paulding, Pickens, Rockdale, Spalding, and Walton Counties in Georgia.

The Consumer Price Index for June 2016 is scheduled to be released on Friday, July 15, 2016.

Technical Note

Average prices are estimated from Consumer Price Index (CPI) data for selected commodity series to support the research and analytic needs of CPI data users. Average prices for electricity, utility (piped) gas, and gasoline are published monthly for the U.S. city average, the 4 regions, the 3 population size classes, 10 region/size-class cross-classifications, and the 14 largest local index areas. For electricity, average prices per kilowatt-hour (kWh) are published. For utility (piped) gas, average prices per therm are published. For gasoline, the average price per gallon is published. Average prices for commonly available grades of gasoline are published as well as the average price across all grades.

All eligible prices are converted to a price per normalized quantity. These prices are then used to estimate a price for a defined fixed quantity. The average price per kilowatt-hour represents the total bill divided by the kilowatt-hour usage. The total bill is the sum of all items applicable to all consumers appearing on an electricity bill including, but not limited to, variable rates per kWh, fixed costs, taxes, surcharges, and credits. This calculation also applies to the average price per therm for utility (piped) gas.

Information from this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: 202-691-5200; Federal Relay Service: 800-877-8339.

Table 1. Average prices for gasoline, electricity, and utility (piped) gas, Atlanta and the United States, May 2015-2016, not seasonally adjusted

| Year and month | Gasoline per gallon | | Electricity per kWh | | Utility (piped) gas per therm | |
|----------------|---------------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------|-------------------------------|---------------|
| | Atlanta area | United States | Atlanta area | United States | Atlanta area | United States |
| 2015 | | | | | | |
| May..... | 2.609 | 2.832 | 0.118 | 0.137 | 1.422 | 0.930 |
| June..... | 2.801 | 2.889 | 0.150 | 0.143 | 1.444 | 0.942 |
| July..... | 2.689 | 2.893 | 0.149 | 0.142 | 1.444 | 0.933 |
| August..... | 2.504 | 2.745 | 0.149 | 0.142 | 1.448 | 0.932 |
| September..... | 2.246 | 2.463 | 0.150 | 0.141 | 1.427 | 0.921 |
| October..... | 2.137 | 2.357 | 0.116 | 0.136 | 1.433 | 0.909 |
| November..... | 2.083 | 2.249 | 0.111 | 0.134 | 1.396 | 0.903 |
| December..... | 1.961 | 2.125 | 0.110 | 0.133 | 1.424 | 0.892 |
| 2016 | | | | | | |
| January..... | 1.815 | 2.034 | 0.112 | 0.134 | 1.421 | 0.898 |
| February..... | 1.669 | 1.833 | 0.112 | 0.134 | 1.400 | 0.895 |
| March..... | 1.906 | 2.021 | 0.112 | 0.134 | 1.372 | 0.884 |
| April..... | 2.102 | 2.196 | 0.112 | 0.134 | 1.385 | 0.879 |
| May..... | 2.246 | 2.324 | 0.117 | 0.133 | 1.393 | 0.877 |